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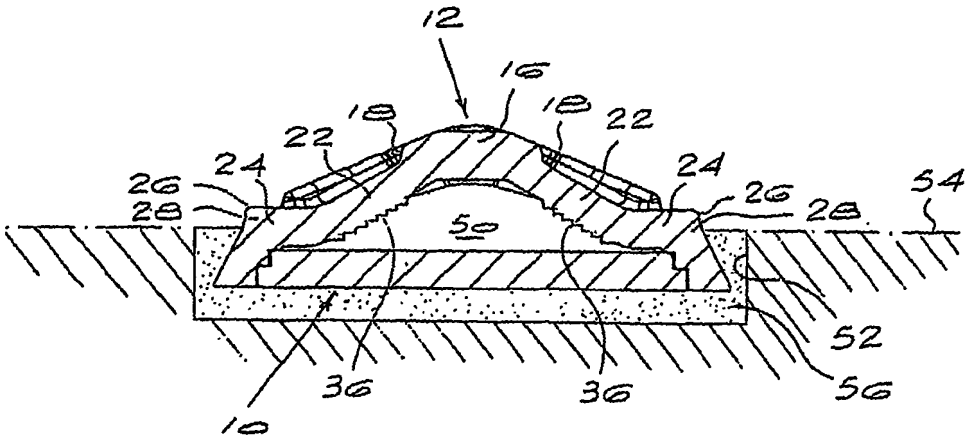
(54) Title: EMBEDDED-TYPE REFLECTIVE ROAD MARKER



(57) Abstract: The invention concerns an embedded-type reflective road marker (10) comprising a generally convex shell (12) and a base (14) which is mated with a lower edge of the shell to form an internal chamber. The shell is of moulded plastics material and includes at least one moulded plastics reflector (36) which forms an integral part of the shell to reflect light cast onto the marker in use.

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AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 8 November 2004 (08.11.2004); original claims 1 and 11 amended; remaining claims unchanged (2 pages)]

+ STATEMENT

1.

An embedded-type reflective road marker comprising a generally convex, rigid shell and a rigid base fixed in sealed manner to a lower edge of the shell to form, in combination with the shell, a rigid housing defining a sealed, internal chamber, the shell being of moulded plastics material and including at least one moulded plastics reflector, forming an integral part of the shell, to reflect light cast onto the marker in use.

2.

A road marker according to claim 1 wherein the shell has an operatively lower edge which includes a plurality of circumferentially spaced, externally projecting ribs to fix the marker against rotation when embedded in a road surface in use.

3.

A road marker according to either one of the preceding claims wherein the lower edge of the shell carries an outwardly projecting flange to fix the marker against being pulled out of the road surface when the marker is embedded in the road surface.

4.

A road marker according to claim 2 or claim 3 wherein the shell has a raised, central rib and a pair of oppositely inclined, externally planar surfaces extending downwardly from the central rib in a direction towards the lower edge, such that the shell has, externally, substantially a gable shape in a cross-section transverse to the rib.

5.
A road marker according to claim 5 wherein the shell includes two reflectors facing in generally opposite directions.

6.
A road marker according to claim 5 wherein surfaces of the reflectors form the externally planar surfaces of the shell.

7.
A road marker according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the or each reflector is moulded in one piece with the remainder of the shell so as to form an integral part of the shell.

8.
A road marker according to claim 7 wherein the shell is made of a light transmitting material.

9.
A road marker according to claim 8 wherein the shell has the same colour, or is clear or translucent, throughout.

10.
A road marker according to claim 8 wherein different portions of the shell are of different colour.

11.
A road marker according to any one of claims 1 to 7 wherein the or each reflector is a premoulded component and the remainder of the shell is

Statement Under Article 19(1)

As indicated in the accompanying letter, claims 1 and 11 have been amended.

With regard to amended claim 1 it is pointed out that the invention distinguishes inventively over the prior art cited in the International Search Report in that the rigid shell and rigid base combine to form a sealed, rigid housing whereas each of the three items of prior art cited in the ISR teaches a road marker which is flexibly resilient and which does not define a sealed housing.

It is submitted that there is adequate basis in the specification for the amendments made to claim 1.

Claim 11 has been amended to correct a clerical error. The work "reflector" in the second line has been replaced by the word "shell".